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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

COUNTRY Germany (Soviet Zone)

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SUBJECT Feinmessgerätewerk Zwönitz Impulse Repeaters
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1. There has been no change in the production of standard electronic measuring apparatus at the Feinmessgerätewerk Zwönitz, in Erzgebirge. The RFT (radio) plants continue to be the chief customers.
2. In November 1953 one hundred forty-four impulse repeaters were delivered; they were manufactured to Soviet order. The apparatus works in the centimeter zone (3-4 cm, controllable by trimmer, capacitative), and are probably for installation in remote controlled rockets.
3. Production is to be maintained in 1954. Material difficulties exist as formerly with respect to platinum contacts and springs used for relays. The silver covers of the trimmers are often blackened as a result of unskillful storage. The electrolytic silver used is not sufficiently pure. The plant also has great difficulties with the storage of high frequency litz wire. The trouble is not with the wire itself, but with the insulation. Temperature and humidity changes cause great capacitative disturbances. Several engineers have been arrested by the MVD on charges of sabotage.
4. It is quite possible that the impulse repeaters are also used by the Soviet Navy, because naval officers are often seen in the plant.
5. Plant employees for some time have no longer been allowed to change their departments. Spot inspections upon leaving the plant are made almost daily, and employees are questioned about details and suspicions of espionage.

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